THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) Establishment of residential girls high schools comes under the purview of the Government of Orissa and no such proposal has been received in the Ministry of Human Resource Development.

Result of Mid-Day Meal Scheme

2806. SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI:
SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Programme for Nutritional Support to Primary Education, popularly known as Mid-day Meal Scheme has failed to show positive results in some States;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether CAG has recently found flaws in the functioning of the scheme in some States;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the corrective steps Government proposes to take to check flaws in the scheme and implement in a smooth manner?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (e) No, Sir. However, the CAG in their report for the year ended March, 2005 on the performance audit of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan had pointed out certain inconsistencies in the coverage of Mid-Day Meal Programme in Chandigarh, Mizoram, Arunachal Pradesh and Punjab, The matter has been taken up with the concerned State Governments/UTs for clarification.

Higher education for backward sections

†2807. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that higher education amongst children of backward sections is being possible for want of capacity to incur its expenses;

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto;

(c) whether Government has decided to implement the proposal by framing a legislation, to overcome the difficulties being faced by the backward sections; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (d) The Central Educational Institutions (Reservation in Admissions) Act, 2006 provides special provisions for reservation of seats for the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and the Socially and Educationally Backward Classes/Other Backward Classes (SEBCs/OBCs) in admissions to Central

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Educational Institutions (CEIs). A scheme of subsidising the interest burden on education loans availed by students from the weaker sections including the SEBCs/OBCs is under consideration.

Community Polytechnics schemes

2808. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT:
SHRI RAHUL BAJAJ:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has set up a committee to review its scheme of Community Polytechnics; and

(b) if so, what are its key recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The committee has recommended expanding the scheme to cover a large number of polytechnics with a larger target group by increasing the coverage to 1000 Polytechnics by the end of Eleventh Five Year Plan. It has also recommended that skills to be imparted for serving vast Indian informal and service sector should be based on the socio-economic survey. The other key recommendations are training of trainers, accreditation of trainers, providing quality tools and equipments to trainers, providing non-recurring grants in a phased manner, reorganizing the staff structure and remuneration payable to staff to be engaged under the scheme.

Setting up of new IITs and IIMs

2809. SHRI K. CHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a decision has been taken for setting up of new IITs/IIMs in the country;

(b) if so, the details of the number and locations considered for setting up of these institutions;

(c) the criterion followed for selection of locations;

(d) whether any requests for IITs/IIMs from various States are pending with the Centre; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for not considering those requests?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (e) Yes, Sir. Based on the recommendations made by the Scientific Advisory Council to the Prime Minister (SAC-PM), it has been decided to set up three new Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs), one each in the States of Rajasthan, Bihar and Andhra Pradesh during the Eleventh Plan. In order to expand the facilities for high quality management education in the North-East, the Government has decided to establish an Indian Institute of Management (IIM), at Shillong. A list of State Governments from whom requests were received for setting up of IITs and IIMs is enclosed as Statement (*see* below). After considering requests of the State Governments and other relevant factors such as existing regional distribution of Central Educational Institutions in